

## Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AID-20 IGA-02 PM-07 NSC-10

SPC-03 SS-15 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /128 W

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R 021447Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5339

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, UY

SUBJ: UNION REGISTRATIONS AND ELECTIONS

CINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: MVD A-130

1. ON SEPTEMBER 28, GOU ISSUED DECREE EXTENDING FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD THE TIME LIMIT WITHIN WHICH TRADE UNIONS MUST RE-REGISTER AND HOLD ELECTIONS UNDER NEW LABOR LEGISLATION (SEE REF).

2. GOVERNMENT MOVED AT REQUEST OF DEMOCRATIC UNIONS IN SELF-STYLED MESA COORDINADORA (BASICALLY BUS DRIVERS, SEAMEN AND GRAPHICS WORKERS) WHICH HAD CONVINCED MINISTER OF LABOR BUGALLO THAT DEADLINES COULD NOT BE MET. TO DATE ONLY 1300 WORKERS (INDIVIDUALS, NOT UNIONS) HAVE SUBMITTED STATEMENTS INDICATING DESIRE TO FORM OR RE-FORM UNIONS IN THEIR WORKPLACES. OF THESE, ALMOST 1,000 WERE BUS DRIVERS AND SOME 300 FORMER CUT MEMBERS. ONLY FORMS RECEIVED BY MINISTRY

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TO DATE WERE THOSE WHOSE PREPARATION HAD BEEN ASSISTED

IN BY AIFLD. GOU HAD NOT YET PREPARED FORMS FOR EMPLOYERS TO DISTRIBUTE TO WORKERS, MINISTRY REGISTRY WAS NOT YET FUNCTIONING, AND NEITHER CUT NOR THE COMMUNISTS HAD GOTTEN ORGANIZING CAMPAIGNS WELL UNDERWAY. THE COMMUNISTS ONLY RECENTLY CHANGED POLICY FROM ONE OF OPPOSING NEW LAW BY NOT REGISTERING TO ONE OF MOVING AHEAD LEGALLY. IN SHORT, NO ONE REALLY WAS READY TO PROCEED.

3. INTIMATE FRIEND AND ADVISOR TO MINLAB SAID MINISTER, WHO WAS DOING EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO HELP DEMOCRATIC LABOR FINALLY RAISED MATTER WITH PRESIDENT AND RECOMMENDED POSTPONEMENT. PRESIDENT TOOK MATTER TO NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (COSENA) WHERE HARD-LINERS URGED THAT UNIONS BE LEFT TO FOLLOW ORIGINAL COURSE UNTIL DECEMBER 15 AND IF DEMOCRATS HAD NOT TAKEN CONTROL OF LABOR MOVEMENT BY THEN, SQUASH ALL UNIONS. HOWEVER, MODERATES, LED BY PRESIDENT BORDABERRY, PREVAILED AND SEPTEMBER 28 DECREE, APPROVED IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, WAS ISSUED TO GIVE GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS AND UNIONS TIME TO GET THEMSELVES ORGANIZED.  
SIRACUSA

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR LAW, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** collinp0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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